

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 21, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Applicant respectfully submits that this response is timely filed and fully responsive to the Office Action.

Claims 28-55 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment, by which claims 37-38, 40 and 52-55 are cancelled, and claims 28-36, 39, and 41-51 are amended. No new matter is introduced (see, e.g., FIGs. 1-2 and 14-15 and the description in Applicant's Specification thereof). Accordingly, claims 28-36, 39, and 41-51 are pending in this application, of which claims 28-30 are independent.

35 U.S.C. §112, First and Second Paragraph, Rejection

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that previous argument regarding independent claims 28-30 over the applied references was found persuasive and that prosecution can be advanced based on overcoming pending 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraph, rejections. Accordingly, claims 37-38, 40 and 52-55 have been cancelled, and claims 28-36, 39, and 41-51 have been amended to correct the noted and discovered informalities and based on the Examiner's very helpful suggestions. With respect to providing further system diagrams, the Examiner is directed to, e.g., FIGs. 1-2 and 14-15 and the description in Applicant's Specification thereof, which Applicant submits clearly describes the claimed invention, as recited in claims 28-36, 39, and 41-51, as amended.

Specifically, the first and second communication devices, as recited in claims 28-29, as amended, are clearly described with respect to, e.g., FIGs. 1-2 and the description in Applicant's Specification thereof. Similarly, the first to third communication devices, as recited in claims 30-36, 39, and 41-51, as amended, are clearly described with respect to, e.g., FIGs. 14-15, communication devices 55, 53, and 57, respectively, and the description in Applicant's Specification thereof. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully contends that all of the pending claims are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and no further rejection on such basis is anticipated. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually satisfactory claim language.

Entry of the Present Amendment

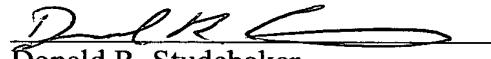
The present amendment merely amends claims 28-36, 39, and 41-51 to correct the noted and discovered informalities and as clearly described with respect to, e.g., FIGs. 1-2 and 14-15 and the description in Applicant's Specification thereof. The present amendment is not believed to raise any issues requiring the Examiner's further search and/or consideration. Accordingly, entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Having responded to all rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action, it is submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. An early and favorable Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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